

ZEPPELIN FLEET HOVERS OVER VERDUN AND THREATENS INVASION OF ENGLAND

to give battle surrounded on three sides by his enemies. On this new development of the battle, already in progress for 12 days, much depends. If the Allies are successful they will force a speedy retreat of the Germans that must carry them back to the lines of the Meuse and north into eastern Belgium.

Meanwhile the French centre is again active. It was announced that the German bombardment of Rheims and its noted Cathedral has been resumed. Shortly afterward it also was stated that the French centre was advancing east of Rheims, indicating that the real cause for the renewal of the bombardment has been the assumption of the offensive by the French. The reason for this undoubtedly is a desire to create diversion which will aid the chain of French forts along the Meuse between Verdun and Toul, which are under severe pressure at the present time.

The German army commanded by the Crown Prince is reported to have succeeded in occupying Varennes on the Aire River, almost directly west of Verdun. This movement, it is believed here, was to prevent the French forces relieving Verdun, which has now been under siege more than a week.

It was emphatically denied at headquarters, however, that by this movement the French centre has been broken. Instead, it is declared as solid as ever, and it is asserted that another movement, details of which are suppressed, is already in progress which will have important results in the near future.

Fresh British troops have been landed in France and are being rushed to the front to support the exhausted soldiers who have been under fire continuously for more than a month.

It is reported the British reinforcements are being placed along the Oise and the Aisne to support both the left flank and the centre of the Allies.

Fighting with the fury of demons, the French of General d'Amade's army are pressing northward and eastward, never ceasing their pounding against the German lines. With Perronne in their hands, they resumed the offensive at dawn today, only to be met with a fierce bombardment from the German guns around Roisel.

The German left, which is supposed

to contain the armies of the German Crown Prince and Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, are making violent assaults on the fortresses of Verdun. The bombardment is described as even more vigorous than that at Liege. Gigantic German siege guns, sent forward from the German fortresses around Metz, are being ranged upon the uplands around the French city and are sending in a tornado of shells. More than 5000 shells, each about five feet long and nearly 17 inches in diameter, are being hurled against the Verdun forts every 24 hours.

The cannonade goes on night and day. Trained gunners, whose life work has been the study of scientific artillery fire, are at the German front at Verdun directing the bombardment. The Germans have more than 100 heavy guns in action there, not counting the light artillery which is being used against the French troops when they make sorties.

The French troops have constructed a series of elaborate redoubts. Defensive works have also been erected for the protection of the batteries upon the hills.

Rows of searchlights have been erected on the heights around Verdun, and at times as these pencils of light flash skyward at night they reveal some intrepid aviator scouting over the beleaguered city.

Counting the fresh works, which were erected to repel the German attack, there are no less than 15 forts around Verdun, on both sides of the Meuse River. The most of these are fortresses of the first-class, which were erected when the German advance against the city began. They are protected with the finest artillery in the French army and the garrison contains an army in itself.

It was learned at the War Office today that the French have captured five aeroplanes, although the location of this exploit was not divulged. The quintet of German Taubes were taken by a French cavalry patrol. Twenty cavalrymen entered a clearing where the prize awaited them. The aviators and a number of mechanics at the time were engaged in overhauling the machines. The patrol made a dash to round up the lot, but the German aviators drew their magazine pistols and began firing. Twelve cavalrymen were killed before the aviators were overpowered and the aeroplanes seized.

SURRENDER OF VERDUN CERTAIN, BERLIN BELIEVES

BERLIN, Sept. 25.—The main line of the French forts, extending from Verdun to Toul, is being battered to pieces by the German siege guns—the 42-centimetre mortars—was announced by the War Office today.

Official announcement is made that siege guns have been taken from Metz to bombard Verdun and the strong French forts in the vicinity of that stronghold.

The official statement is: "The German troops are attacking the entire line of the French fortifications along the French eastern frontier from Verdun to Toul. In an attempt to raise the siege and prevent the demolition of their forts, already suffering severely from the German shell fire, the French have made several attacks in force on the German lines.

"All have been repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy, who has also been driven back on his main positions. "The right wing of the German army has been under severe pressure from the combined British-French forces, but at no point has the enemy succeeded in making an impression on our lines. The main chain of de-

fenses along the River Oise and the Aisne is intact, and the efforts of the enemy to carry the forts by night attacks have proved futile. "Along the line from our right through the Argonne forests no important engagements have taken place. Most of the Argonne German lines have been extended through Varennes, which was taken by a series of brilliant assaults, in which the enemy lost heavily. "The French are striving to prevent the arrival of the guns from Metz, but the guns are steadily approaching nearer. The reduction of Verdun cannot be averted when they reach a position where they can be operated with full effect. "The situation in Belgium and the eastern theatre is unchanged. "In French Lorraine and on the Alsace frontier, fighting proceeds, but there has been little change there from the situation as previously reported. "Summed up, it can be stated that, while a series of violent combats have, and are taking place, at no point is the battle seemingly approaching a decisive stage. The spirit of the German troops is wonderful. They have met the most desperate attacks with courage and have inflicted great damage on the enemy."

VERDUN SITUATION GRAVE LONDON WAR OFFICE ADMITS

LONDON, Sept. 25.—Slight gains for the Allies at Perronne and before St. Quentin on the German right in the last 24 hours are offset by advantage gained by the Kaiser's troops against the French right, southeast of Verdun. The Germans are undoubtedly pushing reinforcements from the garrisons left in Belgium to bolster the defenses of General von Kluck and, despite the optimistic reports from the rear of the Allies, apparently are succeeding in holding their positions there. Dispatches received the day before yesterday told of the occupation of Perronne four days previous by the French and English. Today's dis-

patches assert that as jubilantly as the Allies have occupied Perronne. That the Germans have, on the other hand, made substantial advances against the French right is shown by the official statement of the French War Office this afternoon. "The Germans have occupied the heights of the Meuse and are marching in the direction of St. Mihiel," says the statement. "This can mean nothing but that Verdun, long the object of a stubborn attack by the Germans, is now attacked on three sides, with the railroad to Châlons to the west, open still as its line of communication and source of supplies and reinforcements. The Germans hold the heights east of the Meuse, on the banks of which Verdun stands, and hold the river both north and south of Verdun.

front have been confirmed by the War Office. It is expected that the new army will reinforce the Allies which are attacking the German right wing and that it may advance between Cambrai and Mons, where the Germans have only a screen of cavalry to guard the rear of their line.

FRESH BRITISH ARMY RUSHED TO AID ALLIES

Forces May Be Sent to Hammer German Right Wing. PARIS, Sept. 25.—Reports that fresh British troops were being landed in France and rushed to the

CRACOW IN PERIL AS RUSSIANS GAIN OUTER DEFENSES

Austrians Are Pushed West of San — Przemysl Sortie Repulsed—Winter March on Berlin Planned. PETROGRAD, Sept. 25.—That the Russian armies marching against Cracow have already pushed on almost to the outer fortifications of that strong Austrian position is announced here. The troops are moving along the main line of the railway that extends from Jaroslaw. The main body of the army is reported in the neighborhood of Tarnow, with another army which crossed the San at a point south of Przemysl, and has already occupied Wielok and Sanok, moving to effect a junction with it along the southern railway line from Sanok.

Positive denial was made today at the Vienna War Office of the Russian reports from Petrograd that the Russians now are before Cracow. According to a Rome report the Russians have seized all the passes in the Carpathians and have occupied Stanislaw and Kolomea, both of which are cities of considerable size and both junction points on the railroad that crosses the Carpathians into Hungary from eastern Galicia.

The fiercest fighting previous to the capture of Jaroslaw by the Russians was at Sadowa-Wizna, where a battle was in progress for a week. Sadowa-Wizna lies on a railway line extending from the Russian frontier through Przemysl. It is 30 miles south-east of Jaroslaw and about the same distance northwest from Lemberg.

PRZEMYSL SORTIE FAILS Russian troops have captured several fortified towns in Galicia, opening the way to a final assault on Chyrow, an important railway center, and have deported the garrison of Przemysl, the last Austrian stronghold on the River San, in a sortie that it made in an attempt to raise the siege that has been in progress for five days. The Przemysl troops failed to effect a junction with the Russians. The Russians are keeping up a ceaseless bombardment.

The main Russian army, under Grand Duke Nicholas, is operating against Ruzsky and Brusiloff, is operating against the Austrians and their German reinforcements, and the General Staff believe they are taking the place at Cracow, and after that it will be possible for the Russians to devote their entire attention to the Germans.

The following official statement was issued by the general staff today: "On our southwestern front Russian troops have occupied the fortified positions of Krakenles and Pelsztyn, which commanded the district, with all the enemy's artillery. The garrison of Przemysl attempted a sortie, but was defeated and driven back within the line of forts, which are being bombarded by the Austrian artillery. A few miles east of Przemysl, was evacuated without a fight, and we took large quantities of supplies. The following official statement was issued by the general staff today: "That a winter march on Berlin is planned is now a certainty. The winter supplies are being sent to the entire active army of 2,500,000 men in the field. It is believed by the officers of the General Staff that in a winter campaign the Russian will have all the best of it. It is expected that as a result of the occupation, the Austrian fleet, which has been anchored inside of the naval base at Pola, will attempt to drive the British fleet from Pola and a naval battle will result."

MARCONI STATION CLOSSES. OBEYING FEDERAL ORDER

Officials Abandon Resistance to Censorship Proceedings. NANTUCKET, Mass., Sept. 25.—The Marconi station of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company was indefinitely closed at 1 o'clock this afternoon upon receipt of such instructions from its New York office. Orders to the United States Coast Guard had been given to close the office at noon, but pending further orders from Washington the office remained open until the message came from New York headquarters to suspend business.

Since the closing of many other Atlantic wireless stations, including Sable Island, the high power station on Nantucket Island has been the only means of communication with vessels in either direction and has been handling an average of about 20 radiograms daily. The remaining connection now is by Sea Date, only one hour out from New York. It is reported the Marconi Company may attempt in a short time to close the station through the Southwest fleet station.

GERMAN FINANCES SOUND

Deutsche Bank Assures Country's Ability to Go Through War. BERLIN, Sept. 25.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Deutsche Bank it is stated that its sound economic structure and splendid reserves would enable Germany to go through the war until Germany's future is politically and economically secured.

ADVANTAGE ON VISTULA IS CLAIMED BY VIENNA

War Office Denies Victories of Russians and Servians. VIENNA, Sept. 25.—It was officially announced today that the Austrian troops had come in contact with Russian forces in northern Galicia and driven them back across the Vistula River with heavy losses.

Our position against the enemy—Russians and Servians—is meeting with success everywhere, says the official statement. The troops in Galicia now on the offensive, are enthusiastic. Heavy rains prevent them from pursuing the beaten enemy far, but they have taken many prisoners.

Fears of an epidemic of cholera and dysentery are no longer felt. The medical staff reports that the situation is in hand. Since the beginning of the war thousands of refugees have arrived here from Bukovina and Galicia. They have increased the number of unemployed, which otherwise would have been comparatively small.

JAPANESE BOMBARD GERMAN FORTRESS WITH LAND FORCES

Tsing-Tao, on Chinese Peninsula, Besieged and Terrible Firing Meets Assault. Night Attack Expected. PEKIN, Sept. 25.—The first Japanese attack against the German works at Tsing-Tao on the land side in which Allies have figured was begun today, according to information received in this city.

A force of British troops under Brigadier-General Nathaniel W. Bernardston, 5th South Wales borderers, 400 Indian Sikhs and Japanese began bombarding the outer work of the Germans. "Tsing-Tao is the port of the German leasehold of Kiau-Chau on the Shan Tung peninsula in China. The Allies are making a vigorous assault against the German works, and the German artillery is replying vigorously. It is expected that the Japanese troops and their allies will make a night attack against the German works soon.

Swiss will not allow Germans to cross border. Washington Officials Skeptical About Report From Rome. ROME, Sept. 25.—The Giornale d'Italia publishes a report from Basel that Switzerland has refused a request from the Germans for permission to send three army corps across Swiss territory.

Switzerland recently has received a request from both Germany and France that her neutrality will not be violated, it was stated at the Swiss Legation this afternoon.

BRITISH SHIP VICTIM OF KRONPRINZ WILHELM

Indian Prince Reported Sunk Off South America. LONDON, Sept. 25.—The British steamship Indian Prince has been sunk by the German auxiliary cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, the former North German-Lloyd liner, off the South American coast, according to a news agency dispatch received from Rio de Janeiro today.

It states that the German ship Prussalia has landed the captain and fifteen sailors of the Indian Prince at Santos. This is the first definite word received from the Kronprinz Wilhelm, which has been reported recently as cruising in the Atlantic with coal for German cruisers. The Kronprinz Wilhelm sailed from New York, ostensibly for Bremen on August 25.

British ships attempted to give battle to the converted cruiser, but the Kronprinz Wilhelm sped away, showing a clean path to the Indian Prince. The Indian Prince sailed from Rio de Janeiro for port of Spain and New York, on August 25. She was a vessel of 1775 tons.

REPORT ON RHEIMS DAMAGE

American Consul From Switzerland to Investigate. BORDEAUX, Sept. 25.—The American Consul at Lausanne, in Switzerland, has gone to Rheims to prepare a report on the damage done the Cathedral by the German shells.

PEACE PRICE TOO HEAVY

Germany's Position Must First Be Assured, Berlin Paper Says. BERLIN, by wireless through Savvile, Sept. 25.—The Berlin Tageblatt published the following statement, apparently inspired officially, today: "Peace after such enormous sacrifices is possible only when Germany's position is quite unassailable for a long future."

WAR CUTS IMMIGRATION

Only One-fourth as Many Aliens Coming in Now. WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Figures made public by the Department of Labor today showed that the European war has cut down alien immigration one-fourth of what it was last year. From August 1 to September 23 last, 57,528 immigrants entered the country through New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore and Canadian Atlantic seaports, while during a corresponding period last year 225,985 aliens were received at these points. Fewer than 2000 immigrants were reported arriving in the United States on September 23, while on the same date last year 4541 entrained into the country.

FOUR AMERICANS PRISONERS

Detained in Plymouth, England, as Wartime Measure. LONDON, Sept. 25.—According to a dispatch from Plymouth, four Americans have been arrested there and detained as prisoners of war on their way from New York by way of Bermuda.

1,500,000 RUSSIANS ROUT GERMANS ON PRUSSIAN BORDER

Great Battle Impends as Russians, Resuming Offensive, Advance From Polish Frontier Along 150-Mile Line. PETROGRAD, Sept. 25.—General Rennenkampf has already resumed the offensive against the German and holds the entire East Prussia frontier line while he is driving the Germans who invaded Russian Poland in force back on their own bases.

They have already very strongly fortified the Vistula River from Danzig south, and are evidently preparing to make their real defense along this line. The news of the war in the east indicates, after all reasonable allowances for exaggeration are made, that the immense forces of Russia are rapidly nearing the German frontier, on a line of advance 150 miles wide.

Within a few days is expected news of a pitched battle, as vast as that of the Somme, between 1,000,000 Germans and 1,500,000 Russians. The news of the war in the east indicates, after all reasonable allowances for exaggeration are made, that the immense forces of Russia are rapidly nearing the German frontier, on a line of advance 150 miles wide.

ENGLAND TO AID FAMILIES

Monthly Allowance Will Be Granted in Case of Reservists. Families of English reservists in the United States, who have gone to fight for their country, will receive a monthly allowance from England for their maintenance during the time that country is at war.

Word to this effect as received today by the English Consulate. The allowance will apply to reservists who offered their services in the present war and includes only those who were former soldiers and returned to fight under the colors.

BRUMBUGH AT ALTOONA HAS CORDIAL RECEPTION

Prominent Men Welcome Candidate and He Addresses School Children. ALTOONA, Pa., Sept. 25.—Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh and Henry Houck, arrived here this morning for the big Republican caucus tonight. A notable delegation met at the station. It included George W. Creighton, general superintendent, and N. W. Smith, superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad; Mayor J. Walker, ex-Congressman J. D. Hicks, County Chairman J. Lee Plummer and nearly all the local Republican leaders.

After a brief reception they were escorted in automobiles to the Altoona high school, where 1200 boys and girls gathered to meet the candidates. Dr. Brumbaugh gave the students a heart-to-heart talk. He advised them to stick to school and make the most of their time while they were in school. He called attention to the fact that if all the school children in Pennsylvania were to form a column ten abreast they would form an army 72 miles long.

"It would be the grandest army that ever marched under any flag," he declared. Doctor Houck spoke the candidate were the guests of the school directors at a lunch served in the High School by students in the domestic science department. Doctor Brumbaugh pronounced it one of the most palatable he ever ate.

This afternoon the schools of Juniata, a south, were visited, and later a reception was held in a prominent hotel. Tonight Senator Penrose will arrive here to speak at the rally.

"SLUSH" INQUIRY PROBABLE BEFORE THE FALL ELECTION

Testimony in Sullivan Case to Open Door on Penrose Expenditures. FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT. WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Dr. Carl S. Vrooman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, was the only witness who appeared today at the Senate hearing on the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, which has under consideration the Norris resolution providing for an investigation by the committee of the senatorial primaries in Pennsylvania and Illinois. Doctor Vrooman is from Illinois and his testimony related to the expenditures of Senator Penrose.

Pennsylvanians who are familiar with the manner in which Senator Penrose's campaign for re-election was conducted will appear before the committee at 11 o'clock tomorrow. Senator Kern, chairman of the committee, refuses to reveal the identity of the Pennsylvania witnesses.

Doctor Vrooman's testimony today is said to have increased the demand for investigation asked for by Senator Norris. While the committee met behind closed doors and refused to discuss the nature of the testimony given by Doctor Vrooman, the Evening Ledger is informed that the Norris resolution will be favorably reported to the Senate. Every effort will be made by Senator Norris and other advocates of the resolution to have the investigation conducted before the November election.

SEVEN DEATHS FROM PLAGUE

CATANIA, Sicily, Sept. 25.—Seven persons have died here from the plague in suburban towns. ITALIAN BAN ON AIRSHIPS. ROME, Sept. 25.—The Government issued a decree today forbidding aviators from flying over Italian soil.

MINE SINKS AUSTRIAN SHIP

Rome, Sept. 25.—The Austrian steamship Baron Gautsch has been sunk by a mine in the Adriatic.

RICIDULES PENROSE'S FAILURE TO MEET CHARGES

Palmer Shows Weakness of Attempted Answer to Indictment. COHRN, Pa., Sept. 25.—Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer, candidate for the United States Senate, stopped here just long enough this morning to ridicule the weak reply made by Senator Penrose to the indictment against his public record in Washington which Mr. Palmer has been placing before the voters throughout the State.

Mr. Palmer said he had read the reply from Penrose in the newspapers, and it was evident that the answer was welcomed, for throughout his entire speech he held it up to ridicule, exposing its weakness and pointed to its failure to reply to a single one of the charges made against Penrose.

With the Democratic campaign party, Mr. Palmer arrived here from Sayre, where he spoke last night. Today he will visit nearly all the small towns in Susquehanna County, ending at Montrose tonight, where he will address a political rally and mass-meeting.

BANKS' AID SOUGHT BY M'ADOO TO END MONEY HOARDING

Secretary of Treasury, in Telegram, Asks New York Institutions to Take Initiative. WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Urging the unselfish and patriotic co-operation of all the banks of the nation in meeting unusual financial conditions caused by the European war and asking that New York banks take the lead in stopping hoarding of money and charging of excessive interest rates, Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo today telegraphed the chairman of the Clearing House Association of New York, Chicago, Boston and St. Louis, declaring that he has received complaints about the high rates of interest which are being charged by the national banks of New York, Boston, Chicago and other reserve cities.

"It is alleged that New York banks are requiring correspondent banks throughout the country to pay 7 per cent. for loans and to maintain a balance with the New York banks, which makes the money cost the correspondent banks the equivalent of 8 per cent. or more," the telegram read. "If New York charges the equivalent of 8 per cent. for loans, the correspondent banks of the South, the Southwestern banks must, in turn, charge a still higher rate to the small banks which are their correspondents. I deny that such money cost the ultimate borrower very high, if not exorbitant rates."

"From all the evidence before me, I cannot see the charge of 7 to 8 per cent. interest by the New York banks is justified by the circumstances."

LEADER MANN OPPOSES DEMOCRATS' WAR TAX BILL

Republican Says Extravagance Made the Measure a Necessity. WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Responsibility for additional taxation legislation was attributed to President Wilson by Republican Leader Mann today in a speech in the House attacking the war tax bill. "If the present attempt is to be the work of the Government and practice as well as preach economy," said Representative Mann, "there will be no need for increased taxation. I deny that such a need exists, and assert that the Government can be run without embarrassment if it will exercise economy."

"The present Democratic administration has been more grossly extravagant than any Administration which preceded it. These larger appropriations have been in response to a demand of Administration officials, but it is not too late for the President to order the officials under him to practice economy, and make the appropriations already made do not need to be expended, at least for the present."

Mann charged the Underwood tariff act had turned the balance of trade against the United States. Representative Hammond, Democrat of Minnesota, maintained the Democratic bill followed the course of the war and the consequent falling off in customs duties. He said: "The House has an unpleasant duty to perform in laying additional taxes, but the war abroad has cut out revenues, and the duty must be performed. Patriotism demands the passage of this bill."

Senator Penrose, Republican of New York, told the Democrats, "You are hoping that this war will set you out of a hole into which you have fallen because of your mismanagement."

NEW JERSEY REPUBLICANS

State Chairman Calls Convention to Meet Next Tuesday. TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 25.—Newton A. K. Hughes, chairman of the Republican State Convention, today issued a call for the State convention of the party to be held next Tuesday beginning at 11 o'clock in the auditorium of the Republican Club, this city.

The call is issued to the 69 candidates for the Assembly, seven Senatorial nominees, 161 holders of State offices and the 21 members of the State Committee. The platform committee will meet at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon previous to the convention in the Republican Club.

MUST SWIM TO GRADUATE

West Chester Normal Girls Cannot Get Diploma Otherwise. WEST CHESTER, Pa., Sept. 25.—Hereafter no young woman who does not swim will be graduated and given a diploma at the West Chester State Normal School, according to an action issued today by the board of trustees. The swimming must be an accomplishment of every one who receive a diploma, and all must be able to swim well and not merely float.

Miss C. H. Ehringer, physical instructor of the girls, and her assistant, Miss Padden, have formed the 30 girls into classes of 20 and are instructing them in the art of keeping their heads above water.

Kin of Sheridan Commits Suicide

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Henry F. Myers, a nephew of General Phil Sheridan and a member of the Army and Navy Club, swallowed poison at the retiring room of a downtown drug store here today. He died on his way to the hospital. Myers, on purchasing the poison, appeared in good spirits and told the clerk he wanted the drug for medicinal use. No reason for the suicide is known.

LOCAL FIRE RECORD

Wilmington Chamber of Commerce Surprised by Convention. WILMINGTON, Del., Sept. 25.—Surprised by a convention here today, the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, gave out a statement concerning the coming convention of the Peninsula Horticultural Society when a committee came here to arrange for the convention. The officials of the Chamber of Commerce told the committee they had no knowledge of the convention and the society will rent old Federal Hall, but McGovern declines the chamber authorized the invitation.

AMBASSADOR SHARP MERELY STRESSED NEUTRALITY OF U. S.

Interview, Censored in Paris, Praised French Institutions and Forecast Eventual American Mediation. NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—From Paris today was received a copy of the Paris Herald, of date of September 10, containing the interview of William G. Sharp, newly appointed United States Ambassador, which created so much comment.

It is said that the French Government was so agitated by the interview that the censor refused to allow newspaper correspondents to transmit it to American newspapers. The article, as it appeared in the Paris Herald, is herewith reproduced verbatim: "A Herald correspondent yesterday had a conversation with W. G. Sharp, who has been appointed to succeed Myron T. Herrick as American Ambassador to Paris.

"Mr. Sharp is stopping at the Hotel de Clillon with his son George. "As he explained to the correspondent, he is making himself familiar with the political situation and conditions of the moment, and so preparing himself to take over his office at the proper time. "The war has upset many diplomatic and other precedents," observed Mr. Sharp, "and he added: 'At this critical period it is quite obvious that Mr. Herrick could not desert his post. His knowledge and experience have been valuable in dealing with the exceptional and trying situation created by the war.'"

"Mr. Sharp added that he had just seen Mr. Herrick, to whom he paid high compliments. Mr. Herrick, he declares, is as popular in France as in America. "The first duty of an Ambassador," continued Mr. Sharp, "is to maintain the friendly relations between his country and that to which he is accredited. It is almost unnecessary to say that there will be no change of policy with my arrival. My duty, as the former representative of the United States Government, is to maintain the friendship between the United States and France as never firmer than it is today. Personally, I am a fervent admirer of France, of French art, culture and sentiment."

"Probably no country in the world is more universally admired for its high degree of civilization than France, and it is my duty, as the former representative of the United States, to be absolutely neutral in everything concerning the present conflict. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the United States Government will not swerve from its attitude of strict neutrality. The more impartial we remain, the stronger our position will be. I shall not be influenced, as I give voice to the thought held by many people that the role of the United States is bound to be a most important one at the moment."

"The future Ambassador could scarcely forebode with greater clearness America's eventual mediation. President Wilson's recent offer, he said, was timely, although every one knew it could not then be accepted, yet it had the effect, already of setting men's minds thinking. "What nation could be more fitted than the United States to take the lead in peace negotiations?" asked Mr. Sharp. "In our nation are amalgamated all the races now at war. Our sincerity is unimpaired. Our natural position of impartiality and neutrality is such that America's voice would surely be listened to at the opportune moment."

"Mr. Sharp comes to Paris with a general knowledge of international political affairs, having served as a member of the United States Congress for three terms, and holding the position of ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee at the time of his appointment."

PRESIDENT'S GREETING

Sends First Wireless Message From Marshall, Cal., to Hawaii. WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—President Wilson has sent the first message from the White House to the Hawaiian Islands, to the Governor of Hawaii. The message follows: "May God bind the nations together in thought and purpose and lasting peace."

CONFESS TO BIG THEFT

Pittsburgh Bank Employees Enter Pleas of Guilty in Court. PITTSBURGH, Sept. 25.—Pleas of guilty were entered in Criminal Court here today by Herman F. Borchers and George E. Hoffmaler, who were charged with embezzlement, larceny and forgery in connection with the theft of \$3,000 from the Colonial Trust Company of this city.

Both were connected with the bank at the time the crimes were committed.

SOCIETY NOT INVITED

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